AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 15, as follows:

In Step S132, it is determined if the target throttle opening degree is less than or equal to the estimated target throttle opening degree. In a case where the relationship between the target degree of throttle opening and the estimated target degree of throttle opening is normal, it is determined in Step ~~S133~~ S134 that that relationship is to be determined to be normal in the target throttle opening degree determination logic, as monitor data. On the other hand, in a case where the relationship between the target degree of throttle opening and the estimated target degree of throttle opening is abnormal, it is determined in Step S133 that that relationship is to be determined to be abnormal in the target throttle opening degree determination logic, as the monitor data.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 25, as follows:

When both the determination result by the main CPU 26 and the monitor result by the sub-CPU 34, related to the target degree of throttle opening, are OK in the determination in Step S140, the throttle valve 6 is controlled in a normal control mode in Step S190. On the other hand, when at least one of the determination result by the main CPU 26 and the monitor result by the sub-CPU 34 is abnormal or not OK (NG), a check determination routine for the estimated target throttle opening degree calculation logic is performed in Step S150.